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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 6:06pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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As a computer programmer for more than 15 years, I am very concerned with the proposed Microsoft settlement.

It still allows Microsoft to block software developers from creating programs that can run on Windows-compatible operating systems other than Microsoft Windows. Your settlement must forbid Microsoft from limiting the new applications to its only operating system.

Your meaning of API is narrow meaning that Microsoft does not have to release documentation about all APIs between applications and operating system. Your settlement must be modified to expand the meaning of API to include all interfaces between operating system and applications.

I am puzzled at why your settlement does not allow the software developers to use the API documentation to create a new operating system so that the products from Microsoft can run on it. What is good about your settlement if no one can write a new operating system that is compatible with Windows-related products?

Your settlement must require Microsoft to identify which of the Windows APIs are covered by its patents. How can your current settlement be helpful if Microsoft keeps the software developers guessing which API is covered by which patent?

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